



## Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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### **IDNR Extends Controlled Pheasant Hunting at Five Sites**

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) today announced that the controlled pheasant hunting seasons have been extended at Kankakee River State Park in Kankakee County, Sand Ridge State Forest in Mason County, Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area in Cass County, Eldon Hazlet State Recreation Area in Clinton County and Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area in Franklin and Jefferson counties.

Sunday, January 9 has been added at Kankakee River State Park and Sunday, January 16 has been added at Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA and Sand Ridge SF. Four days – Wednesday, January 12 through Saturday, January 15 – have been added at Eldon Hazlet SRA and five days - Wednesday, January 12 through Sunday, January 16 – have been added at Wayne Fitzgerald SRA.

These season extensions are possible because the IDNR Wildlife Propagation Centers had a better than expected pheasant production season in 2010.

Hunters are encouraged to use the online Controlled Pheasant Hunting Reservation System at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov> to secure permits for these additional hunting opportunities. Reserved permits ensure hunters will have the opportunity to hunt. Standby permits are also available at each site, although standby hunting opportunities may be limited.

To access the reservation system: Click on the "Hunting" icon on the IDNR Home Page; Then click on "Upland/Small Game Hunting;" Then click on "Controlled Pheasant Hunting Areas Permit Reservation System."

Hunters are reminded that the daily permit fee for the controlled pheasant program is \$25 for resident hunters and \$35 for nonresident hunters. The daily permit fee applies to each hunter. Daily permit fees are collected at the site hunter check station on the hunt date. Hunters need to be prepared to pay permit fees with cash. IDNR-operated sites do not accept checks and are unable to accept credit or debit cards.

Hunters without computers are encouraged to gain access to the controlled pheasant hunting online reservation system by checking with family or friends who have computers with internet access or by using a computer at their local public library. Completing a permit reservation online takes less than five minutes.

For complete details, check the controlled pheasant hunting website at <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov>.

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